

Vernon for his Bachelors, then got his Masters degree from Drake in Des Moines. After graduating, he began his public service career in the Iowa State Legislature, working as assistant to State Senator Pat Grassley.

John's been hard at work in the last eight years. He's helped respond to flooding in his community, solve budget needs, and meet the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic head-on. He knows that Atlantic faces the same obstacles that rural communities across the country are facing. The landscape of business is changing, he says, and he knows we need to ensure that communities like his have a fair, fighting chance.

Currently, John is helping Atlantic receive new federal money for projects across Iowa. He is helping bring taxpayer dollars back to his community, helping Atlantic apply for critical funds to repair roads and bridges, receive COVID-19 relief, develop high-speed internet, and much more. John says that getting the funds will make a significant difference for everyone, from improving their ability to do business, preserving habitats for generations to come, and increasing property values.

John has been instrumental in advocating for repairs to Atlantic's water supply. Fixing pipes and updating systems isn't front-page news, but it is incredibly important. Not only will getting these fixes help to ensure the health and safety of Atlantic residents, but it will create jobs and keep Atlantic as a great place to raise family, run a business, and live the American dream. John also helped the city secure USDA funding to build a new animal shelter opening this spring.

I'm proud to have voted for the legislation that creates these grants programs and invests tax dollars back into our communities. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will bring more than \$5 billion dollars to Iowa. John, and city administrators around Iowa, have the important task of applying for these grants.

John wants to make sure that he can help as many folks solve their problems as he can. He's grateful for the dedication of Mayor Grace Garrett and the Atlantic City Council, whose leadership and vision makes his work possible. And John is proud to work alongside so many dedicated public servants who can "breathe life back into a project" when things are stuck, like Parks Director Bryant Rasmussen.

John's work is vital to bringing new federal funds to our communities, and that is why I'm honored to name John Lund as Iowan of the Week.

## BIOECONOMY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2022*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of Amendment No. 48, an important contribution to the America COMPETES Act that will strengthen our supply chains and boost American economic competitiveness.

I was proud to introduce Amendment No. 48 earlier this Congress as bipartisan legislation

entitled the "Partner with Korea Act" with Representative YOUNG KIM of California, the vice ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia and Nonproliferation and one of the first Korean American women to serve in Congress.

I am proud to lead this effort with Representative YOUNG KIM as well as Senators BLUNT and HIRONO, who have introduced companion legislation on the Senate Side.

The Partner with Korea Act, legislation that has garnered 48 bipartisan cosponsors here in the House, would create an allotment of 15,000 E-4 highly skilled work visas for Korean nationals with specialized education and expertise, provided that potential employers can ensure the visa holders are not hired for positions that American workers could fill.

South Korea is an essential American ally, and as our seventh largest trading partner, it plays a crucial role in our nation's continued economic success and national security in Asia.

Better access to skilled visas will support the rapidly growing Korean investments in the United States—and the creation of thousands of high-paying, high-skilled manufacturing jobs across the country.

This amendment will enhance our economic cooperation with a key ally in the Indo-Pacific, increase domestic production of semiconductors, fix supply chains, and most importantly create American jobs.

South Korea investments in the American economy are increasing and according to the Department of Commerce. After the signing of the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement, the stock of U.S. foreign direct investment (FDI) in South Korea grew from \$28.2 billion to \$39.1 billion, while South Korean FDI in the United States more than tripled growing from \$19.9 billion to \$61.8 billion.

In May 2021, four major Korean companies—Hyundai, LG, SK, and Samsung—announced plans to invest \$39.4 billion in the United States. This is nearly double the inbound foreign direct investment (FDI) from Korea between 2017 and 2019.

In September 2021, SK Innovation and Ford announced a partnership to build two manufacturing "mega-sites" to produce next generation electric F-series trucks and batteries, together pledging \$11.4 billion. In November, SK announced it planned to invest \$52 billion in the United States, creating over 10,000 jobs by 2030.

Late last year, Samsung announced that it had selected Taylor, Texas, as the site of a new \$17 billion semiconductor fab, creating over 2,000 jobs.

Just last month, LG Energy Solution and General Motors announced their own \$2.6 billion partnership for yet another battery cell manufacturing facility, which is expected to create another 1,700 jobs. High-skilled, temporary visas will be critical to getting these operations off the ground.

When companies install proprietary equipment, they often send engineers and other specialists to help plan, design, install, and ultimately train new workers on complex manufacturing equipment—leaving the long-term operation to newly-trained American workers.

Electric vehicle batteries and semiconductors are two critical supply chains, and Korean investments mean that more of these goods will be made in America, by American workers.

This is not a new program. The United States already has this same provision with every other trade agreement partner except for Korea. But none of these countries come close to Korea when it comes to the level of inbound foreign direct investment.

Amendment No. 48 ensures that high-skilled, non-immigrant workers from Korea can support these inbound investments and the growth of critical industries in the United States.

Madam Speaker, at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, it was Korea that shipped us personal protective equipment that saved American lives. With deep economic ties and friendship, the U.S.-Korea alliance, forged in blood, is absolutely vital to securing the success of America's workers, businesses and economy at home—to position America to compete—and win—in the IndoPacific and on the world stage.

I urge my colleagues to support Amendment No. 48.

COLONEL JOSIAH WALLACE

**HON. DUSTY JOHNSON**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 4, 2022*

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Josiah Wallace of Rapid City, South Dakota who passed away on November 18, at the age of 97.

Following high school, Josiah received an appointment to West Point. He served in the military for 30 years, completing tours in both the Korean and Vietnam wars. Josiah was a well-decorated veteran, receiving the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star with valor, two Legion of Merits, and two Purple Hearts.

After retiring from the military, Josiah spent his time volunteering in the Rapid City community. He organized "Operation Evergreen," which planted thousands of trees in Rapid City and created the tree canopy that Rapid City enjoys as a Tree City USA. He also gave back to the community by being an active member of the Catholic Church. Josiah spent time volunteering his knowledge and efforts to help educate the next generation on the topic of leadership in the workplace by volunteering as an Adjunct Professor at South Dakota School of Mines & Technology.

In 1946, Josiah married his high school sweetheart, Beulah "Vicki" Mae Housiaux, whom he was married to for 72 years. Together, they had six children, 12 grandchildren, and many great-grandchildren.

Josiah's impact on lives and his dedication to serve and mentor others is evident throughout his life. I would like to thank Josiah and his family on behalf of South Dakota for his service to our Nation. He will be deeply missed by all.

REMEMBERING DAVID KAHAN

**HON. HALEY M. STEVENS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 4, 2022*

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the inspirational life of Mr.